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Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar :—" May I know whether there are any courts in the province which are inspected by the Revenue Divisional Officers ? "

The hon. the President :—" That is a separate question."

Government Servants' Conduct Rules.

Rules governing the conduct of Government servants.

* 1533 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government servants under the Transferred departments also are bound by rules governing the conduct of Government servants ;

(b) whether they can attend conferences convened by the politicians of the Ministerialist school of politics ; and

(c) how many Government servants attended the All-India Non-Brahman Congress at Amraoti and the Liberal Confederation at Madras held in last December ; and their names and their offices ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The extent to which Government servants may take part in political meetings is governed by rules 22 and 23 of the rules for the conduct of Government servants.

(c) The Government are not aware that any Government servant attended the meetings referred to.

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" May I know whether the hon. Member is aware that Mr. C. D. Nayagam, Deputy Registrar, Vellore, was one of these gentlemen who attended the conference ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—" I am not aware, Sir."

Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo :—" May I know whether the Government made any attempts to ascertain whether any Government servants attended the conference ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—" We examined the reports that appeared in the papers and we found no names of Government servants in them."

The Raja of Ramnad :—" May I ask the hon. Member who put the original question whether he asked the question on any information or on only mere surmise about the Government officials attending the All-India Non-Brahman Conference ? "

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—" May I know whether such questions can be asked ? It is presumed that the hon. Members take the responsibility and if there is any doubt about it, your office asks us on your orders whether we take the responsibility for putting such questions ; and we generally say on what circumstances we do so. Such being the case, I request your ruling, Sir, whether such questions can be put by one Member to another Member. Perhaps the next question will be how much responsibility we take."

The hon. the President :—" The Raja of Ramnad does not question the bonafides of the questioner. He only wants to elicit information."

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Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—"May I know whether such questions as 'on what information did the Member put the question' can be asked? I am only raising the general point whether one hon. Member of this House can ask another hon. Member as to the source of the information for putting a question."

The Raja of Ramnad :—"May I submit in reply to the point of order raised that it is only in cases of serious allegations against an officer personally, any such undertaking is asked? I am asking information whether the hon. Member is aware of any person having gone there or whether it is a surmise that somebody must have gone there. I submit there is no point of order."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—"I agree with the hon. Member Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar that I am not bound to answer the question asked by the hon. Member, the Raja of Ramnad. But I may say I have information that a number of Government servants visited the conference and that the particular officer whom I mentioned travelled in the special train which carried the Ministerialists to Amraoti and that he did attend one of those two conferences?"

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—"May I know from the hon. Member whether he is definitely informed that the person referred to attended one of the two conferences?"

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—"Sir, the question is about the conduct of a Government servant. It is immaterial to me whether he attended one conference or two conferences."

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—"May we have your ruling, Sir? We may be guided by your ruling whether such questions can be asked."

The hon. the President :—"If a question is asked about the bonafides of the questioner it is certainly out of order. If it is to elicit information I do not see what objection there is to it."

Land Revenue.

Remission of valuation of trees on darkhast lands assigned to depressed classes.

*1534 Q.—Mr. R. Veerian : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that remission of tree valuation may be made while assigning to the members of the depressed classes such darkhast lands on which trees are grown ;

(b) whether this concession is shown in the case of depressed classes alone or for others also ;

(c) whether there is any Government Order making a remission of tree value on darkhast lands assigned to the depressed classes compulsory ;

(d) if so, whether they will be pleased to lay a copy of the Government Order on the Council table ; and

(e) why tree valuation is now being demanded by the Deputy Tahsildar of Denkanikota, Salem district, in his order Nos. L. Dis. 311 C. and D. of 1924 and L. Dis. 444/C. and D. of 1925 from one Adi-Dravida Mara, son of Mara, residing in Urigam village, Hosur taluk, Salem district?